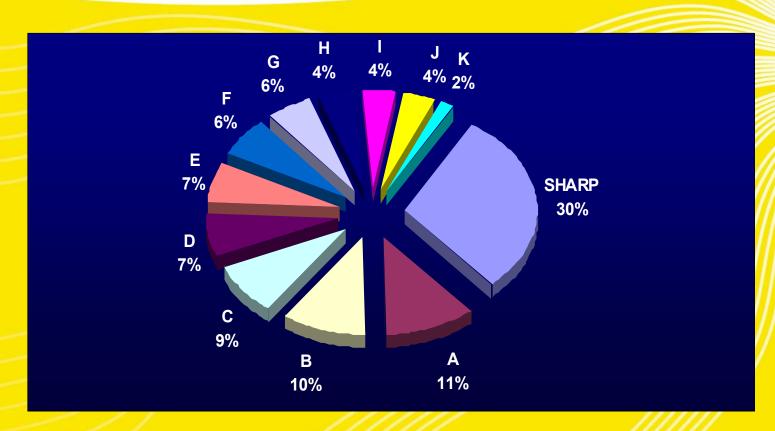
Policy Opportunities to Support Solar

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2005 Worldwide Market Share



- No. 1 in worldwide production 6 years running
- Solar cell manufacturer since 1959
- 100,000+ completed residential systems operating worldwide



Introduction

- CSI is the driving the market in CA
 - State rebates for residential and commercial systems
 - SB1 requires municipal utilities to participate in solar rebate program
 - Municipal utilities may need local pressure to comply
- Opportunities for SCAG or its member municipalities
 - Solar energy usage requirement for new homes & bldgs
 - Standard design criteria for municipal bldgs
 - Streamlined permitting
 - Public education
 - Support the Federal Investment Tax Credit



City RPS

- 20% of electric load from all City buildings must be met by renewable energy
- City buildings must undergo review and all renewable energy systems must be installed if full payback will be achieved within 7 years
 - These Proposals are not mutually exclusive



Regionally Significant Developments

 All RSDs must spend 2% (this can be anywhere from 0.5%-3%) of construction costs on energy efficient and renewable energy measures

New Homes

- All new home developments must offer solar as a standard feature on 25% of homes
- Home developments offsetting 50% or more of expected load with renewables skip to front of queue for permitting and inspection processes



Other Developments

- All buildings and developments receiving City/State/Federal Funding must spend 2% (this can be anywhere from 0.5%-3%) of construction costs on energy efficiency and renewable energy measures
- All new buildings off-setting 20% or more of expected load with renewables skip to front of queue for permitting and inspection processes



Permitting Fees

- Revise permit fees downward to account for the new California Solar Rights Act (http://www.eesolar.com/rights.shtml)
 - This legislation requires minimal permit fees for solar energy systems and makes prohibitions based on aesthetic concerns illegal
- Lower permit fees to \$300 or less for residential PV systems that are flush-mounted to rooftops.
 - This level of fee allows for cost re-capture by local government agencies
- Use a flat-fee method instead of a valuationbased method to assess permit fees
 - It takes roughly the same amount of time to permit a small or large residential PV system.



Permitting Processes

- Streamline permit processes to reduce costs and delays
 - Half- to one-day solar workshops for staff can make a critical difference in process expenses
- Standardize permit requirements to minimize bureaucratic challenges for permitting departments and the PV industry
- Display permit fees and requirements on the city web site to facilitate the application process for solar contractors and for homeowners



Permitting Resources

- Research on Permit Fees
 - Sierra Club Solar Electric Permit Fees Study
 - http://lomaprieta.sierraclub.org/global_warming/pv_perm it_study.pdf
- Best Practices Guidelines
 - IREC Permitting and Inspection Guidelines
 - http://www.irecusa.org/index.php?id=94



Solar Mapping

- Marin County used publicly available GIS technology to locate commercial rooftops with high solar potential
 - Then performed a targeted outreach to these businesses
- Details
 - http://www.votesolar.org/resources/downloads/tools
 Marin GIS Case Study.pdf



Federal ITC

- Support the Securing America's Energy Independence Act (S. 590, H.R. 550)
 - Extends federal investment tax credits currently set to expire in 2008
 - Removes caps on commercial and residential tax credits
- Resources
 - Info
 - http://www.seia.org/ITC One Pager.pdf
 - Send a letter/email
 - http://capwiz.com/reaction/issues/alert/?alertid=9328091



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